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Susan A. Jones Diary Transcription

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Susan A. Jones Diary Transcription

Finding Aid

South Dakota State University Archives and Special Collections
Briggs Library (SBL) Room 241 Box 2114
1300 North Campus Drive
Brookings, SD 57007
Phone: 605-688-5094
Email: arcrefs@sdstate.edu

Collection Summary

Identifier

MA 44

Title

Susan A. Jones Diary Transcription

Creator

Susan A. Jones (Sedgwick) Jones and Virginia Vander Wal

Dates

1863-1870, 2006

Extent

0.21 linear feet -- 1 small document case

Language

English

Repository

South Dakota State University Archives and Special Collections, Hilton M. Briggs Library, Brookings, South Dakota.

Access note

This collection is open to researchers without restrictions. The materials in the Archives do not circulate and may be used in-house only.

Preferred Citation

Name of item. Susan A. Jones diary transcription. MA 44. South Dakota State University Archives and Special Collections, Hilton M. Briggs Library, Brookings, South Dakota.

Abstract

Susan A. Jones (January 11, 1844 – June 23, 1925), came to South Dakota and homesteaded in Hughes County in 1905. While her daughter was proving her claim, she taught school in Wisconsin and South Dakota. The collection is composed of a photocopy of transcriptions of dairies kept by Susan A. Jones while she resided in Massachusetts and Wisconsin.

Biographical Note

Susan A. (Sedgwick) Jones was born on January 11, 1844 at No. Adams, Massachusetts. She married Henry R. Jones on May 3, 1865. They moved from Massachusetts to Clintonville, Wisconsin in 1866. They had six children: Clara, Lillie, Jessie, Stella, Bert and another boy. Henry died in 1897.

Susan and her daughter, Jessie, came to South Dakota and homesteaded in Hughes County in 1905. While her daughter was proving her claim, she taught school in Wisconsin and South Dakota. Susan resided on the claim but went back to Wisconsin in the winter.

Susan died on June 23, 1925 at Clintonville, Wisconsin.

Contents Note

Transcription of the Susan A. Jones diaries was performed by Virginia Vander Wal, great-granddaughter of Susan, in March 2006. The diaries appear to have been written while Susan resided in Massachusetts and Wisconsin. The entries provide insight into her daily activities from 1863-1870. Topics include various social activities, mention of the weather, work activities, and important events, such as funerals, first communion, engagement to be married, etc.

The 1863 transcription was from a very small diary that was written before Susan married Henry. There are several entries concerning the Civil War in this diary.

Some of the original diaries were written on loose pages and were very old and fragile. Others were written in 3 x 4 inch diary books with three days to one side of each page. The writing on these pages was very small and faded, especially those entries written in pencil, making it difficult to read.

Blanks in the text indicate words that could not be read due to illegible handwriting or damaged areas on the paper. Words typed in brackets, { }, are words which a guess was made at some of the letters. The spelling of words in the original diary was maintained.

Virginia Vander Wal includes an account of the transcribing of the diaries as well as some genealogical background of Susan A. Jones. Virginia's personal notations are indicated in bold-faced font in the transcription. Also included is a photocopied photograph of Susan A. Jones and discharge papers for Henry R. Jones.

The diaries are not complete in that some years may not have entries for each day or month.

Key Words

American diaries

Civil War, U.S., 1861-1865 -- Diaries

Jones, Susan A. (Sedgwick), 1844-1925, Diaries

Jones, Susan A. (Sedgwick), 1844-1925

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

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Arranged and Described by

Crystal J. Gamradt, 2008 February 13.

Processing note

The processor wrote the pagination in the bottom right-hand corner of each page in order to maintain original order. This material was received in a bound folder.

Container List

Box	Folder	Description	Date(s)
1	1	Diary transcription [photocopy]	1863-1870